



Friends of Michigan History – Board of Directors

Officers

Francis “Bus” Spaniola, President
David H. Brickey, Vice-President
Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Dr. Richard S. Johnson, Treasurer

Directors

Adriana Greci Green
Dr. Keith Pohl
Charles Seeley
Tom Shawver
Louise W. Stilwill
Paul Tarr
Tom Truscott
Bill Wellman
Geneva Wiskemann

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Michigan Historical Center Foundation - Board of Directors

Officers

Deborah Muchmore, Chair
Francis “Bus” Spaniola, Vice Chair
Jim Wardlaw, Vice Chair
Patrice Merritt, Secretary
Randolph V. Ragsdale, Treasurer

Directors

William M. Anderson
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Mickey Briggs
Nancy Danhof
Paul Drake
Mary Meade Fuger
Mark T. Gaffney
William C. Rands, III
Douglas B. Roberts
John “Joe” Schwarz
Jonathan T. Walton

Ex officio

Sandra S. Clark, Director
Michigan Historical Center

Patricia L. Clark
Development Director

Carol A. Payne
Development Administrator

FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC Meeting Minutes Lansing, Michigan December 11, 2006

Call to Order:

President Bus Spaniola called the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History (Friends) to order at 10:07 AM.

Board Members Present: Adriana Greci Green, Keith Harrison, Richard Johnson, Charles Seeley, Tom Shawver, Bus Spaniola, Louise Stilwill, Paul Tarr, Tom Truscott, Bill Wellman, and Geneva Wiskemann.

Board Members Excused: Keith Pohl and David Brickey.

Museum Staff Present: Chris Dancisak.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented; motion passed.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as transmitted; motion passed.

President's Report

President Spaniola indicated that based on Board members' comments, he would try to arrange a meeting with Patricia Clark for December 19, 2006, at 10 AM ** in the Lansing meeting room for the Board. He will let everyone know via email if he is successful in setting up a meeting for this date. It was indicated that both the Board Secretary and Board Treasurer (and other Board members who can attend the meeting) should have an idea as to the type of reports that they would like to see generated by the Michigan Historical Center Foundation (Foundation). He also indicated that he would still like to get an updated membership listing and associated financial accounting reports for the past months from the Foundation for Fayette and Walker Tavern.

President Spaniola requested that a loose-leaf notebook with Board meeting minutes and a listing of pertinent motions passed by the Board (to be provided by the Board Secretary) and financial and membership reports from the Foundation (to be provided by the Foundation) be provided by the state for each Board

** The meeting time was subsequently changed to 11AM.

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member and be available at each Board meeting. It was indicated that such a notebook could be developed beginning with the December meeting minutes and be available for the January meeting. In a related matter, but not for placement into this new loose-leaf notebook, Chris Dancisak indicated that he could provide the Board Secretary with an electronic copy of all previous meeting minutes that he has in his possession.

In response to a concern raised by President Spaniola regarding resolution of funds that flow through the Friends' Treasury from the various Museum donation boxes, a motion was made and seconded to have Paul Tarr prepare and provide the Board with draft language for an agreement between the Board and the Museum; motion passed.

President Spaniola indicated that once the agreement is approved by the Board, he would set up a meeting with Phil Kwiatkowski to present the draft agreement. Other Board members who may be available also are encouraged to attend this meeting once it is set up.

Finally, President Spaniola wished everyone happy holidays.

TREASURER REPORT

Balance	11-01-06	\$12,407.64
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Checks

1296	Bill Wellman	\$ 67.76
1297	Terry Carroll	50.00
1298	M.Q. Leiby	367.55
1300	S. Adr.	<u>470.45</u>
		\$955.76

		- 955.76
Balance	11-30-06	\$11,451.88

Uncashed Checks

1295	Michigan Council of Ed	\$ 50.00	
1299	North Mich Univ (Ft Wilkins)	+ <u>2,500.00</u>	
		\$ 2,550.00	\$2550.00

Restricted Funds

Walker Tavern	\$616.10		
Military Exhibit	<u>+119.80</u>		
	\$735.90	+ <u>735.90</u>	
		\$ 3285.90	- 3285.90
Available Funds			\$ 8,165.98

Treasurer Johnson indicated that future Treasurer Reports will be typed rather than hand-written to help out in the generation of meeting minutes. Paul Tarr offered several suggestions to improve the usability of the Treasurer reports to the Board including listing out all Restricted Fund Accounts regardless of zero balance (e.g., Fayette currently) and also to ensure that a

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restricted account exists that shows funds that are collected in the Museum donation boxes and deposited to the Friends account (in reference to the previously passed motion).

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

Presentation of Bills

A. \$560.00 to Lance Burghardt - Archival Conservation Project:

Given that the Board had previously indicated that the Friends would provide funding up to \$2,000 for this project, a motion was made and seconded to approve payment of this expense; motion passed.

B. \$1,345.50 to James W. Craven - Archival Conservation Project:

Given that the Board had previously indicated that the Friends would provide funding up to \$2,000 for this project, a motion was made and seconded to approve payment of this expense; motion passed.

C. Veterans Tribute Expense Bills:

All bills associated with this program have been turned into the Board Treasurer and have been paid; therefore, no action was needed to be taken by the Board.

Museum Report

A. WinterFest - Board members were encouraged by Chris Dancisak to go through the Museum to see the Winterfest decorations and different time period winter exhibits. WinterFest concludes on Saturday (December 16th) with several traditional winter outdoor sports being highlighted by the Museum.

B. Statehood Day - Chris Dancisak indicated that in recognition of Michigan statehood on January 25, 1837, the Museum will be celebrating Statehood day on Saturday, January 27, 2007. One of the activities that the Museum will be highlighting is the construction of the Mackinac Bridge.

C. Grants Received - Chris Dancisak indicated that the state received a grant from the Department of Natural Resources to help develop a trail program in conjunction with the state's Iron Industry Heritage Tour Program.

As a result of the Board's discussion on grant programs, a **Grants Committee** (composed of Adriana Greci Green and Tom Truscott) was created by President Spaniola to begin to look for grants that the Friends might be able to apply for that could be used to help promote and celebrate Michigan history projects. All other Board members were requested also to look for such grant programs and to provide the pertinent information regarding where and how to apply for such grants to the Grants Committee.

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Committee Reports

A. *Map Preservation Committee* – No report

B. *2007 Veterans Day Program Committee* -- The Friends Committee for the 2007 Veterans Day Program was designated as Paul Tarr (Chair), Keith Harrison, Charles Seeley, Tom Shawver, and Bill Wellman. It was indicated that the Board also may look at having a Spring Veterans program along with the November Veterans Day program and that possibly the Spring program might focus on Michigan's contributions to the War of 1812.

C. *Membership Committee* - Bill Wellman reported back on his contact with Michigan Historical Center Director, Sandra Clark regarding the following three issues:

1. The possibility of an article in *Michigan History Magazine* about the Friends, its purpose, and contact information regarding how to join and/or donate,
2. A similar article regarding the Foundation, but not running in the same issue as a Friends article, and
3. The availability of the use of the *Michigan History Magazine* subscription database for a Friends membership solicitation mailing.

Sandra Clark's Response:

Hi Bill--

In answer to your questions:

Yes, the magazine could run a short article on the Friends and/or their programs in the "at the Center" section. You would need to coordinate content with Roger Rosentreter. (The same option is open for the foundation--in fact, the article on the Odyssey teacher awards in the most recent issue was a foundation one.) Sometimes we run multiple articles on that 2-page spread.

We have used parts of the magazine list for Friends solicitations in the past. Chris would have more information on how effective they have been. (We've used parts simply due to the cost to the Friends of postage and materials for the whole list.)

One of the problems we may need to grapple with in the future is that every time someone gets a subscription through the Friends, the magazine gets \$3 less in revenue from that subscription than if the person simply subscribed to the magazine.

Sandra

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CC: Roger Rosentreter & Chris Dancisak

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Based on Ms. Clark's response, the Membership Committee will prepare a generic article on the Friends that will discuss the Friends' purpose and provide contact information regarding how to join and/or donate to the organization. Once approved by the Board, it will be presented for consideration to the *Michigan History Magazine* Editor, Roger Rosentreter.

It was noted that Ms Clark's comment regarding the \$3.00 loss in revenue to the magazine was a legitimate concern and will need to be addressed at a future meeting of the Board.

Other membership issues that were discussed was the status of the Board members' obtaining membership lists from various associations and organizations. As the lists are obtained, the Membership Committee will develop a solicitation letter and some sort of incentive to entice the individuals identified from the respective associations and organizations lists to become members of the Friends. President Spaniola requested that the Board members get their list to the Board Secretary. Secretary Harrison reminded the Board to please send the lists to him in an electronic format (email, email attachment, database, excel spreadsheet, etc.). Finally, three Board members provided Chris Dancisak with a list of names that will be used to develop membership solicitation letters for the submitting Board member's signature.

D. *Board Nominating Committee* – Several members indicated that they had lists of potential Board members. It was indicated that they should get their lists to Keith Pohl. It also was indicated that other Board members who have yet to come up with possible candidates should also get their lists to Dr. Pohl before the next meeting.

E. *Magazine/Military Committee* – It was indicated that one item that had not yet been resolved was the cost of sending the magazines to the military units. It was indicated that 1st Lieutenant Lynn Chapp should be contacted to see what she could do to help with this issue.

New Business

There was no new business.

Old Business

There was no old business.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned; motion passed.

The meeting was adjourn at 12:05 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Keith G. Harrison

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Board of Directors
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

The next Regular Board meeting will be January 8, 2007 10:00 AM in Lansing.